

**AN ORDINANCE BY  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 30-1205 OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA CODE OF ORDINANCES SO AS TO ADD ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE TO THE SIGNAGE REQUIREMENTS OF PARK FOR HIRE PARKING LOTS, WITH REGARD TO NONCONSENSUAL TOWING SERVICE PROVIDERS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Atlanta Police Department, Councilmembers and other City of Atlanta officials have received numerous complaints from citizens and visitors to the City of Atlanta about unfair and inequitable business practices in the nonconsensual towing service industry; and

**WHEREAS**, the complaints are, among other things, that signage on park for hire parking lots contain incorrect or ambiguous information regarding violations, fees, etc., which ultimately may put Atlanta citizens and visitors at risk; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Atlanta is empowered and legally and officially charged with the responsibility of ensuring the safety of all Atlanta citizens and visitors, especially in the high-traffic, downtown area, where parking is at a premium; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Atlanta is empowered and legally and officially charged with the responsibility to prohibit and regulate, by ordinance, any conduct and activities within the territorial limits of the City of Atlanta that are deemed by the City to be detrimental and to the peace, safety, good order and general welfare of the City of Atlanta, its citizens and its visitors.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, HEREBY ORDAINS** as follows:

**Section 1.** That Section 30-1205, NOTICES, be deleted in its entirety and replaced by the following language:

**Sec. 30-1205. Notices.**

All park-for-hire facilities, including park for hire facilities that contract for nonconsensual towing, shall post a notice at any entrance to the facility, which shall be reasonably visible to a customer in the driver's seat of a vehicle after the vehicle is at least partially on the parking facility premises and which notice shall set forth:

- (1) The telephone number of the principal office of the operator of the facility.
- (2) The business hours of operation of that lot, i.e., time of opening and closing.
- (3) The rates for any and all fees which shall be required of any parking patron for the use of the park-for-hire facility. Such notice must include the highest price which shall be charged for special events.
- (4) All signs shall be located at each designated entrance to a parking lot or parking area where parking prohibitions are to be effective. Where there is no designated entrance, such signs shall be erected so as to be clearly visible from each and every parking space.
- (5) Such signs shall be 7.5 square feet in area (2.5 feet by three feet).
- (6) Such signs located at a designated entrance to a parking lot shall be at least four feet above the site grade. Where there is no designated entrance, such signs shall be six feet above the grade if vehicles are to be parked between the sign and the maneuvering area for the parking space.
- (7) Such signs shall state in letters at least three inches high that "unauthorized vehicles may be towed away at owner's expense to . . . ." Such signs shall also include the following information in letters at least 2 1/2 inches high:
  - a. Such vehicles may be removed at a maximum cost of \$85.00 and stored at a maximum cost of \$10.00 per day for each day thereafter, all of which shall be paid by the owner;
  - b. The address of the location to which such vehicles are towed;
  - d. No storage fee may be charged if the vehicle has been held less than 24 hours;
  - e. Shall state that these conditions are required by state law and city ordinances; and
  - f. Shall state that complaints may be made to the owner or operator of the property.

**Section 2.** If it shall be found that any ordinance or parts of any ordinance are in conflict herewith, then those sections contained herein shall be deemed controlling.